

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives are delighted to honor an outstanding Missourian who has witnessed dramatic changes in America during his sojourn on this most precious earth; and

Whereas, Willard Ferril James of Farmington, Missouri, commemorated the resplendent occasion of his One Hundredth Birthday with a special celebration on January 26, 2005, at Presbyterian Manor; and

Whereas, on January 26, 1905, in Clarkton, God brought a special gift to Charles Edgar and Eda May James with the birth of an adorable infant by the name of Willard, who would put a twinkle in their eyes and fill their hearts with love and joy; and

Whereas, while celebrating his birthday, Willard James had the opportunity to reminisce about some of the significant events in his life such as his marriage to Mildred Phoebe James (deceased) and the births of their offspring; and

Whereas, God has blessed Willard James with the love and affection of a wonderful family whose members include his children, Cynthia James Null, David James (deceased), Curtis James, and Marshall James; six grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren; and

Whereas, Willard James distinguished himself as an Agricultural Agent with University Extension for thirty-seven years, during which time he worked in Cass, Bollinger, and Butler counties before moving to Pemiscot County in 1950; organized the Poplar Bluff Calf Auction and the 4-H Camp at Lake Wappapello; and served as President of the Missouri Association of County Agricultural Agents; and

Whereas, Willard James has also enjoyed recognition for his work with the American Red Cross, Head Start, the Senior Citizens Center, the Rotary Club, Pemiscot County and Regional councils on aging, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, Meals on Wheels, various poverty and school programs, and the Presbyterian Church; and

Whereas, at the respectable age of 100, Willard James is extremely grateful for the countless blessings he has received throughout the course of his long and eventful life:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations and special birthday greetings to Willard James at this significant milestone and in wishing him peace and contentment as he continues to enjoy his golden years; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Missouri centenarian Willard Ferril James, as a measure of our esteem for him.

Offered by _____
Representative Terry Swinger
District No. 162

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 326, adopted February 1, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker